Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A ~~stand-alone~~ hydrostatic pump, comprising:

a pump housing; and

an endcap removeably connected to said pump housing, said endcap including a pair of system passages formed in said endcap, each said system passage fluidly connected to the hydrostatic pump, each said system passage fluidly connected to a pair of system ports formed in an exterior of said endcap, each of said system ports accessible from an exterior of said ~~the~~ pump housing and configured to convey operating fluid between the ~~stand-alone~~ hydrostatic pump and a separate hydrostatic motor positioned outside said pump housing, said quantity of operating fluid being sufficient to operate said hydrostatic motor.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The ~~stand-alone~~ hydrostatic pump of Claim 1, wherein said endcap further comprises a bypass passage fluidly connecting said pair of system passages, said bypass passage having a first end and a second end, each of said first and said second ends forming a valve seat.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The ~~stand-alone~~ hydrostatic pump of Claim 2, wherein said endcap further comprises a pair of bypass valve holes formed in said exterior of said endcap, each of said pair of bypass valve holes providing access to one of said valve seats.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The ~~stand-alone~~ hydrostatic pump of Claim 3, wherein said pair of bypass valve holes are formed in a pair of opposing bypass passage sides of said endcap, and each said pair of system ports are formed in opposing system passage sides of said endcap.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The ~~stand-alone~~ hydrostatic pump of Claim 3, wherein each said bypass valve hole is aligned with one of said valve seats.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The ~~stand-alone~~ hydrostatic pump of Claim 3, wherein said endcap further comprises a bypass valve seated on one of said valve seats, whereby said pair of system passages are no longer fluidly connected, said bypass valve positioned in one of said bypass valve holes and secured to said endcap.

Claim 7 (currently amended): A ~~stand-alone~~ hydrostatic pump comprising:

a pump housing; and

an endcap connected to said pump housing , said endcap including system passage means for providing a pair of fluid accesses to the hydrostatic pump from a pair of system passage sides of said endcap, said system passage sides of said endcap accessible from an exterior of ~~the~~ said pump housing, said system passage means configured to convey a quantity of operating fluid between the ~~stand-alone~~ hydrostatic pump and a separate hydrostatic motor positioned outside said pump housing, said quantity of operating fluid being sufficient to operate said motor.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The ~~stand-alone~~ hydrostatic pump of claim 7, wherein said endcap further comprises a bypass passage fluidly connecting said pair of fluid accesses, said bypass

passage having a first end and a second end, each of said first and said second ends forming a valve seat.

Claim 9 (currently amended): The ~~stand-alone~~ hydrostatic pump of Claim 8, wherein said endcap further comprises a pair of bypass valve holes formed in a pair of opposing bypass passage sides of said endcap housing, each of said pair of bypass valve holes providing access to one of said valve seats.

Claim 10 (currently amended): The ~~stand-alone~~ hydrostatic pump of Claim 8, wherein said bypass passage sides comprise opposing sides of said endcap and said system passage sides comprise opposing sides of said endcap.

Claim 11 (currently amended): The ~~stand-alone~~ hydrostatic pump of Claim 9, wherein each said bypass valve hole is aligned with one of said valve seats.

Claim 12 (currently amended): The ~~stand-alone~~ hydrostatic pump of Claim 8, wherein said endcap further comprises a bypass valve seated on one of said valve seats, whereby said pair of system passages are no longer fluidly connected, said bypass valve positioned in one of said bypass valve holes and secured to said endcap.

Claim 13 (original): An endcap for a hydrostatic pump, comprising:

an endcap housing;

a pair of system passages formed in said endcap housing, each said system passage fluidly connected to the hydrostatic pump; and

a bypass passage fluidly connecting said pair of system passages, said bypass passage having a first end and a second end, each of said first and said second ends forming a valve seat.

Claim 14 (original): The endcap of claim 13, further comprising:

a pair of bypass valve holes formed in a pair of opposing bypass passage sides of said endcap housing, each of said pair of bypass valve holes providing access to one of said valve seats.

Claim 15 (original): The endcap of Claim 14, wherein each said bypass valve hole is aligned with one of said valve seats.

Claim 16 (original): The endcap of Claim 14, further comprising:

a bypass valve seated on one of said valve seats, whereby said pair of system passages are no longer fluidly connected, said bypass valve positioned in one of said bypass valve holes and secured to said endcap housing.

Claim 17 (currently amended): A ~~stand-alone~~ hydrostatic pump assembly comprising:

a casing;

a pumping mechanism, said casing enclosing said pumping mechanism, said casing comprising:

a housing; and

an endcap attached to said housing, said endcap having at least one lateral exterior surface, said lateral exterior surface of said endcap accessible from an exterior of said casing, and a first

system fluid passage having a pair of system ports located opposite each other in said endcap lateral exterior surface and configured to convey a quantity of operating fluid between the ~~stand-alone~~ hydrostatic pump and a separate hydrostatic motor positioned outside side pump housing, said quantity of operating fluid being sufficient to operate the hydrostatic motor and a second system fluid passage having a pair of system ports located opposite each other in said endcap lateral exterior surface and configured to convey a quantity of operating fluid between the ~~stand-alone~~ hydrostatic pump and a separate hydrostatic motor positioned outside side pump housing, said quantity of operating fluid being sufficient to operate the hydrostatic motor said first and second system fluid passages in fluid communication with said pumping mechanism.

Claim 18 (currently amended): The ~~stand-alone~~ hydrostatic pump assembly of claim 17, wherein said endcap lateral exterior surface is formed by four connected lateral sides, opposing said system ports of each said pair of system ports being located in opposite ones of said four lateral sides.

Claim 19 (currently amended): The ~~stand-alone~~ hydrostatic pump assembly of claim 17, wherein one said system port of each said pair of system ports is selectively plugged.

Claim 20 (currently amended): The ~~stand-alone~~ hydrostatic pump assembly of claim 17, wherein said endcap has a bypass passage extending between said first and said second system fluid

passages, said bypass passage in communication with a pair of bypass valve holes located opposite each other in said endcap lateral exterior surface, said hydrostatic pump assembly further comprising:

a bypass valve located in one of said pair of bypass valve holes, said bypass valve interchangeable between said pair of bypass holes; and

a removable plug located in the other of said pair of bypass valve holes, said bypass passage being selectively opened and closed by said bypass valve, whereby said first and said second system fluid passages may be placed in and out of direct fluid communication with each other through said bypass passage.

Claim 21 (currently amended): The ~~stand-alone~~ hydrostatic pump assembly of claim 17, wherein said pump assembly is provided with a pair of selectively closeable case drains located opposite each other in said housing.